



**MIKE DeWINE**

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

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March 2, 2018

***Via email to [koconnor@campaignforaccountability.org](mailto:koconnor@campaignforaccountability.org)***

Katie O'Connor  
Legal Counsel  
Campaign for Accountability  
611 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E. # 337  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Re: Your Public Records Request

Dear Ms. O'Connor,

I am writing in response to the public records request you submitted to the Ohio Attorney General's Office on January 23, 2018. Specifically, your request sought "any and all communications to, from, or between any employee of the Office of the Ohio Attorney General and any employee or representative of Family & Youth Initiatives (FYI), including Patricia 'Pat' Banaszak. This request is for records from January 1, 2012 to January 1, 2015."

You noted the following: "By way of background, in February 2012, Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine participated in a national settlement agreement with several mortgage servicing companies. The settlement encouraged Mr. DeWine to spend more than \$93 million 'on programs that would crack down on mortgage fraud, prevent foreclosures or clean up after the mess left by foreclosures.' Mr. DeWine gave roughly \$18 million of the \$93 million to Ohio organizations, including \$150,000 to Family and Youth Initiatives (FYI). Patricia Banaszak is the Executive Director of FYI. FYI has received additional public funds, including a grant from the Department of Jobs and Family Services under the Parenting and Pregnancy Support Program and grants from the Governor's Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives."

You also requested to receive any responsive records electronically.

Initially, please note that your request is overly broad because it does not provide information to allow us to identify responsive records based on the manner in which this office organizes and accesses the records it keeps. "[I]t is the responsibility of the person who wishes to inspect and/or copy records to identify with reasonable clarity the records at issue." *State ex rel. Zidonis v. Columbus State Community College*, 133 Ohio St.3d 122, 2012-Ohio-4228, 976 N.E.2d 861, ¶ 21. In addition, a public office has no duty to "seek out and retrieve those records which would contain the information of interest to the requester." *State ex rel. Fant v. Tober*, 8th Dist. No. 63737 (Apr. 28, 1993), *aff'd* 68 Ohio St.3d 117, 623 N.E.2d 1202 (1993).

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As a courtesy, and in the interests of transparency, we have attached records reflecting communications between employees of the Attorney General's Office and Patricia 'Pat' Banaszak regarding the grant awarded to Family & Youth Initiatives with moneys from the national settlement agreement with mortgage servicing companies. Information that is not responsive to your request has been redacted from these records.

Additionally, please note that in general, the Ohio Attorney General's Office organizes its records by service division and case. The current records retention schedules for the Ohio Attorney General's Office, which further demonstrate how records are ordinarily maintained and accessed by our office, can be found on our office's website at: <http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/About-Ag/Public-Records-Access>. You can also find a listing of each of the service divisions/sections of our office, along with descriptions of what they each do, on our office's website at <http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/About-AG/Service-Divisions>.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this response, or in the event you would like to clarify your request, please feel free to contact the Public Records Unit at 614-466-2872.

Very respectfully yours,

*Renata Y. Staff*

Renata Y. Staff  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Public Records Unit

Attachments

cc: Brittnie M. Reed, Paralegal, Public Records Unit